

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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FM USMISSION USBERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 324

INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L USBERLIN 34

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, WB, UR

SUBJECT: WORMSER-YEFREMOV CONVERSATION, JANUARY 6

1. SUMMARY: AT LUNCH WITH FRENCH AMBASSADOR WORMSER JANUARY 6, SOVIET AMBASSADOR YEFREMOV EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER ROLE OF FEDERAL COURTS IN BERLIN, ALLIED GRANTING OF WEST BERLIN LANDING RIGHTS TO KLM AND THY, AND APPOINTMENT OF SCHUETZ AS CULTURAL AFFAIRS PLENIPOTENTIARY UNDER FRANCO-GERMAN FRIENDSHIP AGREEMENT. WORMSER GAVE STANDARD RESPONSE ON FEDERAL COURTS; EXPLAINED THAT IT WAS EXCLUSIVELY ALLIED PREROGATIVE TO GRANT LANDING RIGHTS IN WESTERN SECTORS, GDR OVER-FLIGHT RIGHTS BEING SEPARATE QUESTION; AND DEFENDED SCHUETZ APPOINTMENT AS HAVING NO BEARING ON BERLIN STATUS. WORMSER GAVE STRONGLY NEGATIVE RESPONSE WHEN YEFREMOV RENEWED PROPOSAL FOR JOINT CELEBRATION OF
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ANNIVERSARY OF DEFEAT OF NAZI GERMANY. END SUMMARY.

2. FRENCH MISSION HAS PROVIDED US WITH ACCOUNT OF CONVERSATION BETWEEN FRENCH AMBASSADOR WORMSER AND SOVIET AMBASSADOR YEFREMOV AT LUNCH JANUARY 6. BEFORE TURNING TO BERLIN MATTERS, YEFREMOV REMARKED ON SATISFACTOYR DEVELOPMENT OF FRANCO-SOVIET RELATIONS, BUT CRITICIZED RECENT STATEMENT OF SECRETARY KISSINGER ON POSSIBLE ARMED INTERVENTION IN OIL-PRODUCING STATES OF MIDDLE EAST.

3. AMBASSADOR YEFREMOV THEN RAISED JURISDICTION OF FEDERAL COURTS IN BERLIN, AN ISSUE WE WERE TOLD HE WOULD RAISE WITH AMBASSADOR HILLENBRAND IN NOVEMBER, BUT IN THE EVENT DID NOT. ACCORDING TO FRENCH POLAD, NEITHER AMBASSADOR SEEMED TO BE SURE OF HIS FACTS, BUT ON UNDERSTANDING THAT YEFREMOV WAS REFERRING PRIMARILY TO RECENT EXTENSION TO BERLIN OF LAW AMENDING 1953 LAW ON INNER-GERMAN JUDICIAL ASSISTANCE, FRENCH SIDE GAVE STANDARD RESPONSE TO THIS COMPLAINT.

4. YEFREMOV REMINDED WORMSER THAT SOVIETS HAD RESPONSIBILITIES IN AIR CORRIDORS AND SAID THAT HE COULD NOT UNDERSTAND HOW THREE WESTERN POWERS BY THEMSELVES COULD GRANT RIGHTS TO FOREIGN COMPANIES SUCH AS THY OR KLM. FRENCH SIDE SOUGHT TO EXPLAIN THAT ALLIES WERE GRANTING ONLY LANDING RIGHTS ON AIRFIELDS IN WESTERN SECTORS, WHICH DID NOT INVOLVE RIGHT OF PASSAGE THROUGH CORRIDORS AND DID NOT PREJUDICE GRANTING OF RIGHTS TO OVERFLY GDR TERRITORY. (QUESTION OF KLM/THY LANDING RIGHTS WAS ALSON BROACHED BY SOVIETS IN COURSE OF MEETING ON OTHER BUSINESS BETWEEN SOVIET EMBASSY COUNSELLOR RODIN AND BRITISH POLAD JANUARY 7(RODIN REPEATED YEFREMOV'S POINT THAT SOVIETS CONSIDERED LANDING RIGHTS IN WEST BERLIN SUBJECT FOR QUADRIPARTITE DISCUSSION. BRITISH POLAD POINTED OUT THAT ALLIES HAD SOME TIME AGO GIVEN LANDING RIGHTS TO SAS AND AUA, BUT GDR HAD REFUSED TO GRANT OVERFLIGHT RIGHTS TO THESE COMPANIES. QUESTION OF DISCUSSIONS WITH SOVIETS DID NOT THEREFORE ARISE. POLAD SAID IT WAS ALLIED UNDERSTANDING THAT THY WOULD BE NEGOTIATING WITH GDR FOR CONFIDENTIAL

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OVERFLIGHT RIGHTS IN MED-JANUARY, AND THAT ALLIES, HAD, OF COURSE, BEEN PREPARED TO ENTER INTO TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS WITH SOVIETS REGARDING PROCEDURES FOR LUFTHANSA STOPOVERS IN WEST BERLIN ON FRANKFURT-MOSCOW ROUTE. HOWEVER, AS WITH AUA AND SAS, LUFTHANSA HAD BEEN UNABLE TO OBTAIN OVERFLIGHT RIGHTS FROM GDR AND HENCE NO TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS WITH SOVIETS HAD TAKEN PLACE.)

5. YEFREMOV COMPLAINED AT LENGTH ABOUT NOMINATION OF GOVERNING MAYOR SCHUETZ AS PLENIPOTENTIARY FOR CULTURAL AFFAIRS UNDER FRANCO-GERMAN FRIENDSHIP AGREEMENT OF 1963. HE SAW IN THIS FURTHER ATTEMPT TO TREAT WEST BERLIN, WHICH WAS NOT A CONSTITUENT PART OF FRG, AS A FEDERAL LAND, IN RESPONSE, AMBASSADOR WORMSER SAID THAT PLENIPOTENTIARY WAS IN REALITY ONLY A COORDINATOR WITHOUT POWER OF DECISION AND THAT HE WAS NOT APPOINTED BY FRG BUT RATHER SELECTED BY LAENDER, WHICH ENJOYED AUTONOMY IN EDUCATIONAL MATTERS: PLENIPOTENTIARY'S TASKS HAD TO DO PURELY WITH TEACHING FRENCH AND GERMAN LANGUAGES.

6. WHEN YEFREMOV RENEWED SUGGESTION FOR JOINT CELEBRATION OF THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF GERMANY CAPITULATION (BONN 00147, USBERLIN 2234), AMBASSADOR WORMSER SAID HE HAD RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS FROM QUAI TO RESPOND THAT FRENCH HAD NO INTENTION OF PARTICIPATING IN CEREMONIES OF THIS KIND IN BERLIN. (YEFREMOV APPARENTLY HAD IN MIND ONLY WEST BERLIN). WORMSER SAID THAT IF ANY CELEBRATION OF ANNIVERSARY WAS ENVISAGED, IT SHOULD TAKE PLACE IN RESPECTIVE ALLIED CAPITALS. SELIGMANN

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